

January 28, 2004

Country of Origin Labeling Program
Agricultural Marketing Service
1400 Independence Ave., SW
USDA STOP 0249
Washington, DC 20250-0249

Dear Sir:

The country of origin labeling is very important to me. I check to see if there is a label. I will not purchase fresh vegetables from a foreign country if I am given a choice.

EPA is extremely strict with USA growers. The foreign countries should meet the same strict guidelines for food that is imported for Americans to eat. I know the USA cannot control their guidelines, but the least you can do is to let the consumer know from where the food is coming. Let the consumer make the choice if they want to eat tomatoes from Mexico etc.

Please make the country of labeling effective and do it at a reasonable cost. The State of Florida has been labeling for years. The Americans are the ones being put out of business by these imports.

Thank you

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